

Application No. 10/729,000
Amendment "F" and Response dated May 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 29, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A restraint device for use in holding or restraining a child in a desired position, comprising:

a pair of opposing handles, each configured to be gripped by a person's hand; and
attachment means for attaching the pair of opposing handles adjacent to a child's body on opposite sides of a child's ~~center of gravity~~ body so as to lie on a central balancing plane during use,

the attachment means being configured so that at least one handle lies next to a child's body or clothing while the restraint device is worn so that a hand gripping the handle remains close to the child's body during use and so that at least a portion of the hand gripping the handle is disposed between at least a portion of the handle and the child's body,

the handles being sized so as to allow insertion therein of at least three fingers of a person using the device to hold or restrain a child,

the handles extending laterally away from a surface of the attachment means so as to provide an opening into which a person can readily insert fingers without spreading the handles apart from the attachment means,

at least one handle being permanently attached to the attachment means to prevent inadvertent detachment of the at least one handle from the attachment means to protect a child from being accidentally dropped during use of the restraint device.

2. (Previously Presented) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, the handles comprising at least one loop, the loop comprising at least one of a fabric, plastic, elastomer, metal, ceramic, or composite material, the loop having an opening that accommodates insertion of four fingers therethrough while gripping the loop.

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3. (Original) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, the attachment means comprising a single sheet or strap of a flexible material configured so as to wrap at least partially around a child's body.

4. (Original) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, the attachment means comprising a plurality of straps configured so as to wrap at least partially around a child's torso or limbs.

5. (Original) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, the attachment means comprising one or more fastening devices configured so as to releasably attach the attachment means to a child's body.

6. (Original) A restraint device as defined in claim 5, the fastening devices comprising one or more of a hook and loop system, a buckle, a tie, a snap, a latch, or a ratchet.

7. (Previously Presented) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, the attachment means configured and the handles positioned relative to the attachment means so as to position one of the handles at or near a child's spine and the other of the handles at or near the child's sternum.

8. (Currently Amended) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, the attachment means configured and the handles positioned relative to the attachment means so as to position the handles so that both lie on a central balancing plane that passes through at or near a center of at least one of a child's spine and sternum or a central balancing plane that passes through a child's left and right shoulders ~~chest, upper back, lower back, or stomach.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A restraint device as defined in claim 1, further comprising a head restraining system comprising a concave region configured to receive and engage at least a portion of a child's head skull region in order for the head restraining system to ~~securely~~ restrain the child's head in a desired position relative to the child's body when the head restraint system is in use.

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10. (Currently Amended) A restraint device for use in holding or restraining a child in a desired position and in a balanced fashion with a single hand of a person desiring to restrain the child, the restraint device comprising:

a flexible corset or harness sized and configured so as to wrap around at least a portion of a child's body, wherein the corset or harness comprises a plurality of flexible straps that are laterally spaced apart that wrap at least partially around the child's torso but that expose at least a portion of the child's body between the flexible straps so as to

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